Latest Art, Culture, Food, Tourism News, Views & Announcements

CULTURAL ONLINE MAGAZINE

VOL-1 ISSUE - 55
MAY 20, 2022

http://bit.ly/INKochi

INK OCHi

FIRST OF ITS KIND FROM KERALA

55

MONSOON IN KERALA

What is more romantic
than the sound of rain?

- Subodh Kerkar
- Death of a Santoor
- Museum Day
- Book - MEN
- Buttermilk Biscuits

CULTURAL eMAGAZINE
INK OCHi
FIRST OF ITS KIND FROM KERALA

EDITOR & PUBLISHER
Varghese T. Thomas
varghese.ink@gmail.com

EDITORIAL DESK
Annie Smitha
anniesmitha.ink@gmail.com

Alicen Jacob
alicen.ink@gmail.com

DESIGN & LAYOUT
Hari N Nair
Viswanath Gopal

MARKETING & ADVERTISEMENT
Suresh Panickar

For editorial, advertisements and feedback:

FOLLOW US :

inkochibulletin.wordpress.com
facebook.com/inkbulletin
inkochi_magazine
@INKochiMagazine

Phone/WhatsApp : 8547 107 471
inkochi.emagazine@gmail.com

Editor's Note

IT IS RAINING

According to Christopher Dyne, Rain can be a relaxing event that can make you peaceful as you hear the calming raindrops on your window sill. For many people, the rain can make them cozy and create inner peace in them. For others, the rain symbolism is far different – it can be a symbol of cleansing and clarity.

But there are also some other meanings of rain. It can be used as a symbol of sadness and melancholy, which is especially typical in literature and works of art, as well as movies. It's also a common symbol of romance, as it's used in many romantic movies and romantic literature, especially in those famous scenes where protagonists make love in the rain. Rain symbolism has many different meanings. It's a very wide-ranging symbolism that can have different implications when used in different settings.

Rain cleanses the dirtiness and pollution physically, but also mentally. This rain symbolism is commonly seen in movies where it's used as a sort of cathartic quality that cleanses one's soul. It acts as this redeeming event that can free one's soul and remove all the bad thoughts and negativity out of one's mind.

Happy Reading...!!
Varghese T. Thomas

SUBODH KERKAR

Source: Art Family India

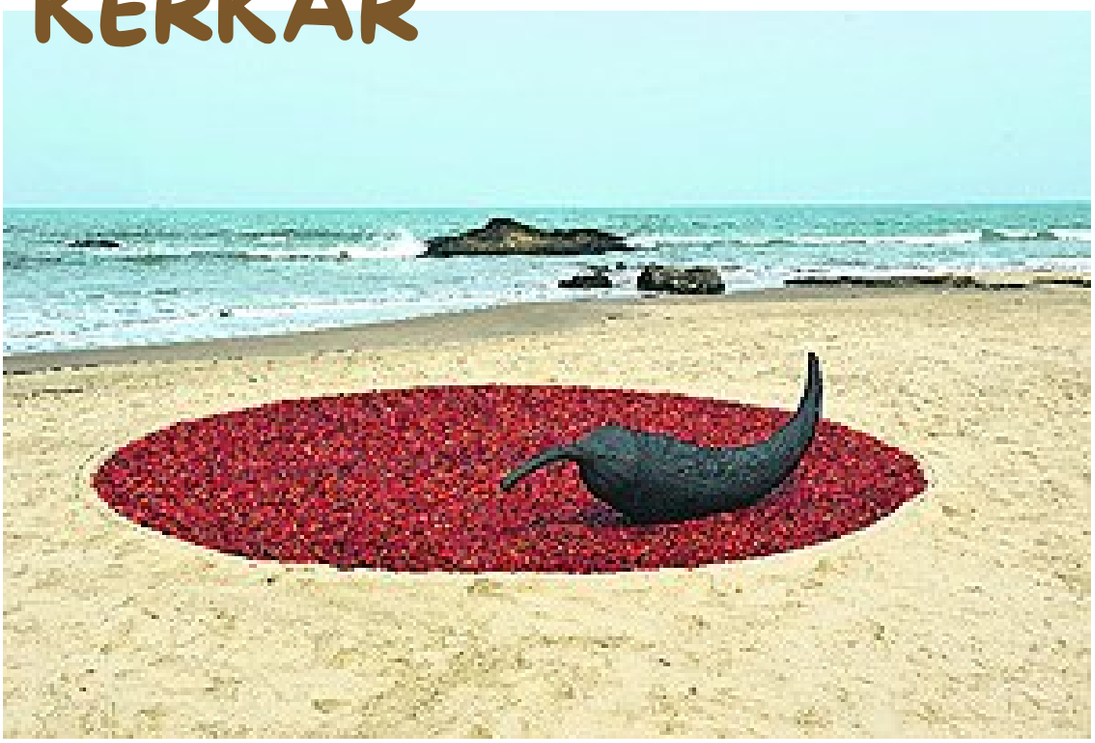
Subodh Kerkar (born 26 August 1959) is an Indian painter, sculptor and installation artist, and founder of the private art gallery Museum of Goa. He is known for his artworks and installations.

Kerkar's work has been displayed in India and abroad, including at art exhibitions such as the Sculpture by the Sea in 2011 and the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition in 2018. One of his recent installations is the 2017 Carpet of Joy. Another, a 2018 photo exhibition on fishermen (chosen for the Royal Academy exhibition), was chosen by filmmaker Bharat Bala to be the subject of a documentary. He has spoken at Visva-Bharati University and the Van Gogh Museum.

SUBODH KERKAR

Subodh Kerkar was born in a small picturesque village of Keri on the northern border of Goa. A qualified medical professional, he gave up medicine to pursue arts 30 years ago. He is an artist and an activist and uses art to comment on social, political, religious and other issues. He has carved a niche for himself, especially in the field of conceptual art and land art.

SUBODH KERKAR



He spent his childhood, walking on the beaches with his artist father, Chandrakant Kerkar. These walks consolidated his relationship with his father and with the ocean. Subodh Kerkar's installations are heavily washed by the ocean, both literally and metaphorically.

SUBODH KERKAR

He creates his ephemeral installations using thousands of mussel shells, pebbles, palm leaves, boats, fishermen and sand. The ocean is both inside and outside his works, his master and his muse. Subodh creates large works on the seashore, which are often infused with politics and history. Subodh is the Founding Director of the Museum of Goa (MOG) and has exhibited widely in India and abroad in galleries and in museums.

Manash Firaq Bhattacharjee

DEATH OF A SANTOOR

To Ustad Zakir Hussain

When I heard the master of santoor is
No more, I played his jugalbandi with you
On the tabla, the strings in vilambit laya
Felt like droplets of water on the grass,
I could hear the flight of a grasshopper.
Nature spoke to nature. We are here
To listen, the nature of each instrument
Merges with the nature of another,
And music is born. You join him midway
Like a ship sets sail to the tempo of wind.
What were you telling each other? This is
All there is? Tat Tvam Asi: Thou art that,
You are each other. The sound of your
Hands in trance, this is all that remains of
History, this is what heals the blood
That flows in the absence of music. Your
Names bring your gods together, they
Hear you like children before the word
Was born, you play on. Fishes in the blood
Nibble on the flesh, old landscapes die
Before the eyes, time gently goes to sleep.

Manash Firaq Bhattacharjee is a poet, writer and political science scholar. He is the author of The Town Slowly Empties: On Life and Culture during Lockdown (Headpress, Copper Coin, 2021), Looking for the Nation: Towards another Idea of India (Speaking Tiger, 2018), and Ghalib's Tomb and Other Poems (London Magazine Editions, 2013).

Source: The Wire

DEATH OF A SANTOOR

Source: The Wire

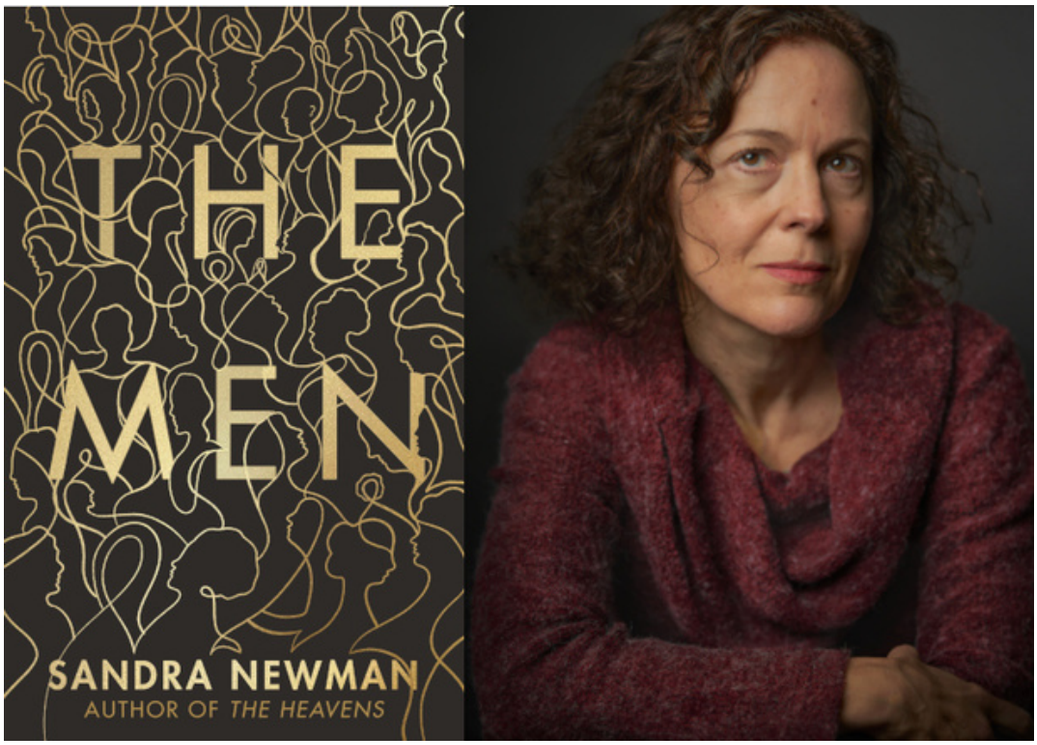
[The death of the eminent santoor player, Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma, marked the end of an era in Indian classical music. He had singularly popularised the gentle string instrument, the santoor, worldwide.

He played along with some of the finest classical musicians in India and abroad. Sharma, long with the flutist, Pandit Hari Prasad Chaurasia, also composed music briefly for some romantic musicals in Indian cinema. Sharma also played memorable jugalbandi (duets) with Ustad Zakir Hussain, the legendary tabla player.

The photographs of Hussain carrying the body and standing alone near the pyre at Sharma's funeral, seeing his old friend and fellow musician depart from this world, was a poignant and touching reminder of love and friendship in an atmosphere of hatred and violence. This tribute to the late maestro is dedicated to his friend, Zakir Hussain, and their performances together.]

--- Manash Firaq Bhattacharjee

About The Book



Source: Topping Books, UK.

Sandra Newman is the acclaimed author of the Bailey's Prize-longlisted The Country of Ice Cream Star, The Only Good Thing Anyone Has Ever Done (shortlisted for the Guardian First Book Award), and the much-loved The Heavens.

It's a gripping, beautiful and disquieting novel of feminist utopias and impossible sacrifices that interrogates the dream of a perfect society and asks: what if the price of a better world was losing the person you love?

Jane Pearson is camping with her husband Leo and their five-year-old son Benjamin, deep in the California woods on an evening in late August. At the moment that she drifts to sleep outside the tent where Leo and Benjamin are preparing for bed, every single person with a Y chromosome vanishes from the world, disappearing from operating theatres mid-surgery, from behind the wheels of cars, from arguments and acts of love. Children, adults, even fetuses are gone in an instant. Leo and Benjamin are gone. No one knows why, how, or where. After the Disappearance, Jane enters a reality she barely recognises, where women must create new ways of living while coping with devastating grief. As people come together to rebuild depopulated industries and distribute scarce resources, Jane reunites with an old college girlfriend, Evangelyne Moreau, leader of the Commensalist Party of America, a rising political force in this new world.

Meanwhile, strange video footage called 'The Men' is being broadcast online showing images of the vanished men marching through barren, otherworldly landscapes. Is this just a hoax, or could it hold the key to the Disappearance?

Hill Palace Museum, Kochi

The museum is an institution of social change. Museums can change people's lives. They contribute to cohesive communities and reflect the history and identity of all citizens. In turn, museums live and develop by the skills and the creativity of their public and they must show their value to society. These are various types of museums. As social transformers, the objects and activities of museums are a very important part of society. Across the world, museums are diversifying into eco-museums, community museums, panchayat museums, and adapting various indigenous museum – models for wider cultural representations and social accountability. The years that followed saw more intense change in the museum scenario for reasons more than one.

Text: B-CAF - Bridging Culture and Art Foundation

MONSOON IN KERALA

Kerala Turns Romantic During Monsoon

Monsoon starts Ist of June every year in Kerala

By Kamlesh Nayal / TourMyIndia.com

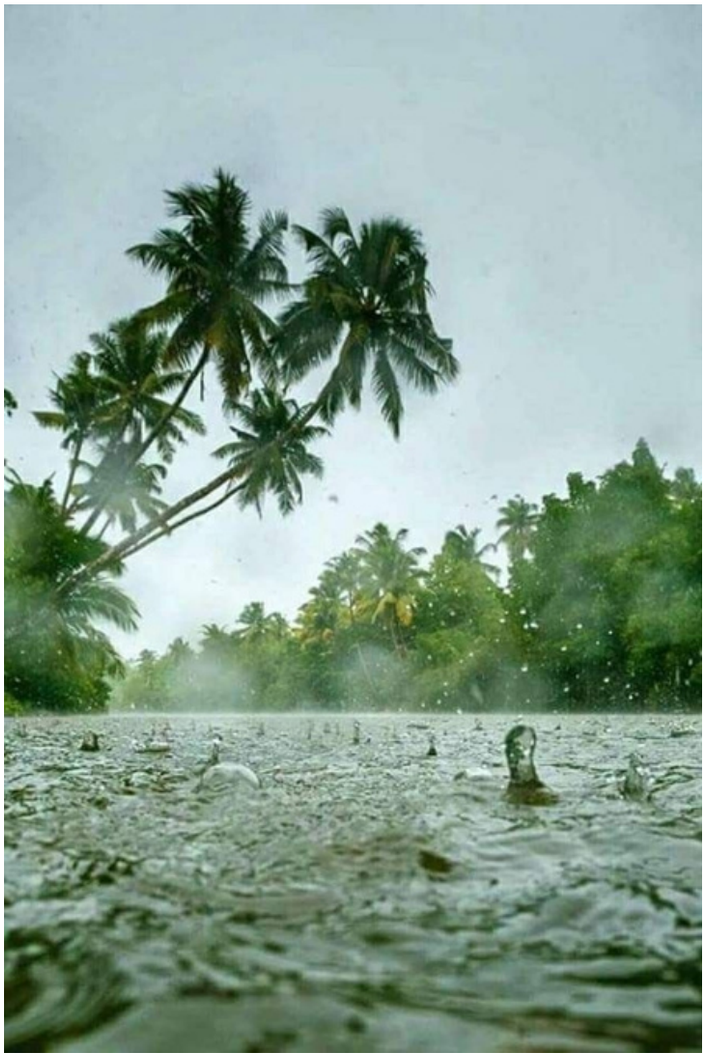
What is the best thing you can do when it rains? Savour a hot cup of coffee, enjoy the “pitter patter” noice of rain from your window, or treat yourself to some good food? Well, you can do all of these and even more just at the time of rain. Kerela is considered to be the only Indian state where monsoon hit twice i.e. south-west and northeast monsoon and covers the vast dry lands of Indian subcontinent. It makes this place even more beautiful and pleasing to eyes.

Most recently Kerela is declared to be one among the ten tourist paradises of the world and listed as one of the 100 great trips for the 21st century. However, most of the poeple avoid making any trip to Kerala during monsoon season, the reason been bad weather, delayed flights, muddy roads, and untreated waters on road. But, little they know that monsoon is the best time to visit this tropical land which looks its best during rain. Also, there are other unexpected advantages of travelling Kerela during monsoon. Here are some reasons that can help you understand why one needs to visit Kerala in monsoon season.

MONSOON IN KERALA

Kerala Turns Romantic during Monsoon

What is more romantic than the sound of rain? The green ambience of Kerala and constant downpours makes it a romantic spot for many couples out there. It opens several getaways for them to escape with their partners and spend memorable time tohgether. Some of places to visit in Kerala in monsoon are Kerala backwaters, Wayanad, Vagamon, Poovar Island, Bekal beach, Alappuzha, Munnar, Kovalam, Kumarakom, and Thekkady. These countless number of destinations looks even more beautiful during rain and can offer you spectacular sightseeing spots and romantic honeymoon spots during your trip. It has more such hideouts and getaways that can enthrall you and make your monsoon trip to Kerela most memorable.



MONSOON IN KERALA

Monsoon Welcomes Festival Season in Kerala

Along with monsoon comes the season of festivites and celebration. Kerala's most important festival Onam is celebrated around August to September and it lasts for 10 days. It's a harvest festival where poeple celebrates the ancient homecoming of the king Mahabali who ruled the state for a very long time. During the festival the people of the state seems joyful as they decorate their homes, visit temples, perform poojas, make Pookalam (Flower carpets), buy new clothes, dress up in their traditional attire, and visit relatives. Not only is this, but the famous annual snake boat race performed on Pamba River is one of the prime attraction during Onam celebrations. People from far across the lands visit Kerala to watch this carnival. To be one of them you must consider traveling to Kerala during the monsoon time.

MONSOON IN KERALA

Rejuvenate your Body with Ayurvedic Massage

Do you know monsoon is the best time to receive Ayurvedic treatment in Kerala? The cool, moist, and dust-free atmosphere during rainy season helps your body's pores to breathe and thus makes it reactive to get herbal oils and therapy. Kerala is the home of Ayurveda, which is one of the oldest forms of traditional medicine in the world. It offers treatments in the form of yoga, meditation, diet, massage, and the application of oils. Many hotels and resorts across the state offer these treatments at discounted price as a part of Kerala monsoon offers. Take some time out and plan a quick visit to this emerald land and experience the finest ayurvedic therapies to rejuvenate yourself with herbal massages.

MONSOON IN KERALA

Monsoon Adds Beauty to Emerald Kerala

Lush, lush, lush..all around! Kerala is always green but its true bright green colors come out only during monsoon. Right from the moutains and lands to the beaches and watersides, almost every part of Kerala is lush with spices, grain and fruits like banana, coconut, pineapple, cardamom, pepper, cinnamon, basil, turmeric, rice, etc at the time of heavy shower. You cannot miss but travel throughout Kerala to watch some of the best waterfalls, hill stations, beaches, and of course backwaters. Monsoon witness higher temeratures, plenty of rainfall, very less tourists, discounts in hotels and restaurants that offers succulent monsoon special cuisines and more picturesque environment to the visitors.

MONSOON IN KERALA

Lush Green Palm-fringed Backwaters of Kerala

The lush green palms, diverse wildlife, conventional houseboats, and heavenly-looking green villages together make the backwaters of Kerala. The beauty of backwaters is difficult to describe in words especially during monsoon as it turns into one of the tranquil place that you would love seeing on your tour. Some of the popular backwater spots of Kerala include Alappuzhu-Canal Cruise, Alappuzha-Kochi cruise, Alumkadavu-Kollam, Ashtamudi, Kumarakom, and Mannanam in Kottayam. Backwaters are undoubtedly one of the best places for monsoon sightseeing in Kerala, which is fascinating and romantic on the same hand.

MONSOON IN KERALA

Untouch Kerala Beaches looks Beautiful during Monsoon

Scenic landscapes, lovely palms, coconut groves, natural harbors, lagoons, and sheltered coves, the beaches in Kerala rank among the popular tourist destinations in India. The best thing of these beaches is that they are untouched and less crowded and the seashores of most of the beaches here reflect a unique portrayal of nature especially during mansoons. Kovalam is one of the prime beaches of Kerala that offers an array of water sports like parasailing, diving, swimming, and boating and it has palm lined on the seashores with blue waters making it appealing to eyes. Shanghumukham beach, Veli lagoon, Somatheeram, Varkala, Marari, Bekal, and Cherai are some other beaches that top the list of best monsoon gateways in India.

MONSOON IN KERALA

Enjoy Stay in a Tree House during Rain

Whats better than having a cup of filter coffee while rain clouds are all over your tree house? The feeling is great right? Well, you can watch bird chirping from a next, witness morning downpour, and observe jungle's most distinctive inhabitant at Wayanad, Kerala. The place is known for some of the best resorts that offer the facility to stay in tree house amidst the rainforest canopy. You can do trekking here with a naturalist guide through the forest and attend 'SPLASH' monsoon carnival organised every year in July by Wayanad's tourism department at Kalpetta. The carnival includes local sports like vadamvali (tug-of-var), kabaddi, archery, slow cycle races, crab tours, rock climbing, marathons, rafting and mud football. You can have your best time at Wayanad's popular tree house especially made to comfort you during monsoon. To enjoy the splendour of the place you must book your tickets for Wayanada now and experience the best of rain.

MONSOON IN KERALA

Munnar Tea Gardens and Mattupetty - The Rejuvenating Point

Munnar is undeniably one of the most beautiful and exhilarating tourist spot in Kerala that looks its best during raining season. You will fall in love with this ultimate place if you visit this during monsoon as it has so much to offer to the visitors. One can visit revitalizing tea plantations, seek wildlife in rainforests, and indulge in adventure sports like mountain climbing at Munnar and enjoy sightseeing at green-dotted valleys, streams, and cliffs. Some of the big-time activities that you may enjoy in Munnar are trekking, bird watching, hiking, and sightseeing the beautiful cascades. For the tourists who are looking for the best monsoon holiday ideas for Kerela, Munnar is nothing but heaven.

Mattupetty is an idyllic spot to enjoy the magic of the monsoons! This hill station, perched at a height of 1700 meters in the Idukki hills is best known for the dam and beautiful lake. It will be a nice relaxing holiday, with some great walks to see cascading waterfalls or you can sit indoors and watch the mist-laden hills while the rain pours down to cleanse the earth.

MONSOON IN KERALA

Scenic Overflowing Waterfalls

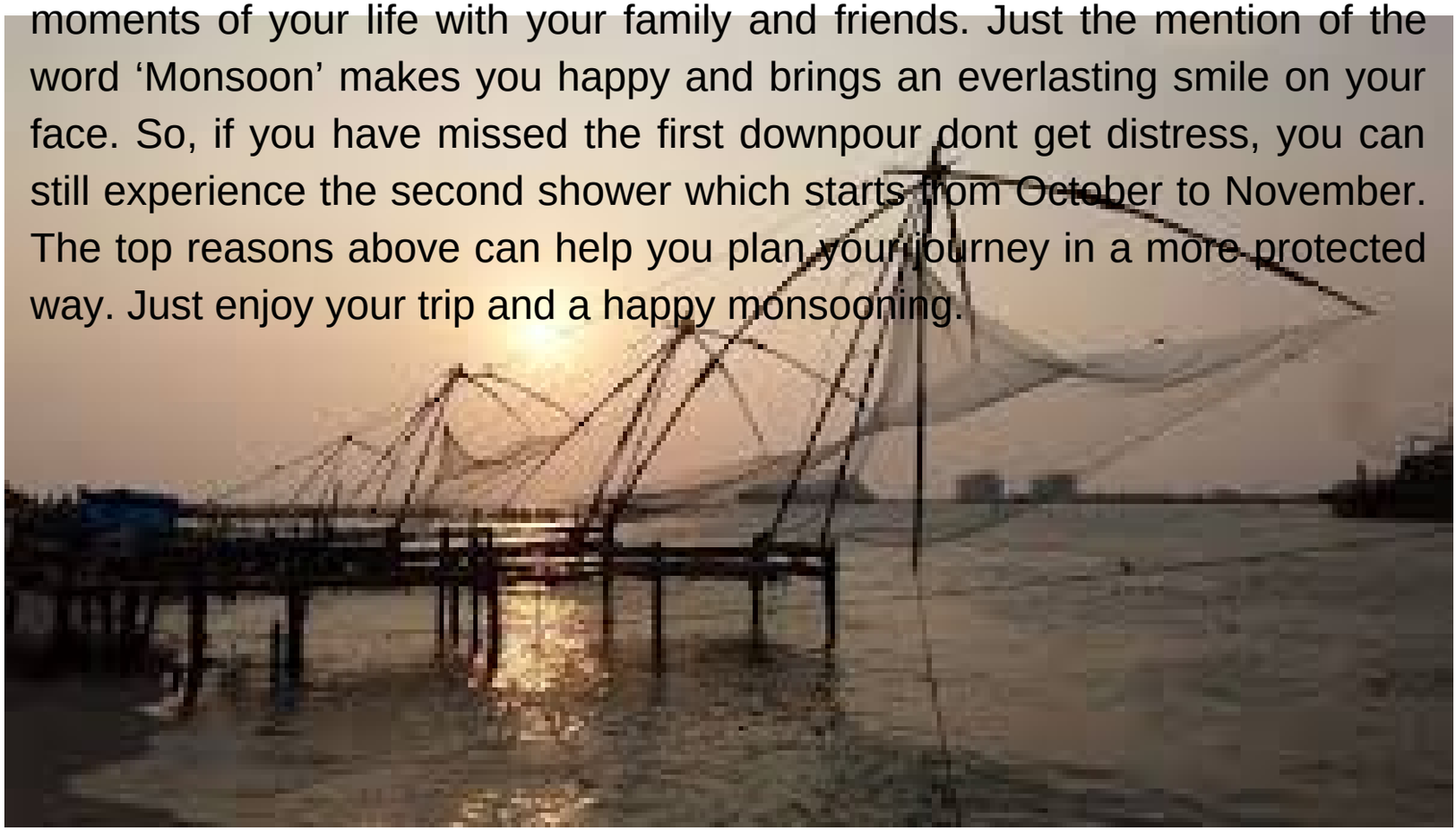
What better season than the monsoons to see the waterfalls in their full glory. One can easily spend hours gazing at the beauty of the gorgeous waterfalls and soaking in the surrounding beauty. Did you know, Athirapally Falls, located about 47 kms from Thrissur was one of the filming locations of the Aishwarya Rai Bachchan and Abhishek Bachchan starrer Guru.

Where: Athirapally and Vazhachal, about 80 kilometres from Kochi | Thommankuth, 74 kilometres from Kochi | Thusharagiri, Kozhikode and Palaruvi, Kollam.

MONSOON IN KERALA

Kochi- The Gateaway to Kerala

Last in the list is your very own Kochi, also known as the Gateway to Kerala. This beautiful city is surrounded by the Western Ghats and the Arabain Sea which makes it even more enchanting especially during monsoon. This place comes out so beautiful at the time of rain that people have no choice but to visit this historically rich city. Kochi has mixed culture of the Portuguese and Chinese, reflected in the monuments present here. And, it is the best assortment of outstanding backwaters, delightful beaches, and stimulating Spas and Ayurvedic centres. So, if the shower breaks all of a sudden while you're vacationing in 'God's Own Country', don't be sad, simply travel to Kochi and pull together some of the best moments of your life with your family and friends. Just the mention of the word 'Monsoon' makes you happy and brings an everlasting smile on your face. So, if you have missed the first downpour dont get distress, you can still experience the second shower which starts from October to November. The top reasons above can help you plan your journey in a more protected way. Just enjoy your trip and a happy monsooning.



BUTTERMILK BISCUITS

Meghan Splawn - CONTRIBUTOR
Meghan was the Food Editor for Kitchn's Skills content

INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups
- (10 ounces) all-purpose flour, plus 1/4 cup more for dusting
- 2 teaspoons
- baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon
- baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon
- kosher salt
- 1 stick
- (4 ounces) unsalted butter, frozen
- 1 cup
- buttermilk

EQUIPMENT

- Measuring cups and spoons
- Mixing bowl
- Box grater
- Wooden spoon
- 3-inch round or biscuit cutter

INSTRUCTIONS

Heat the oven: Arrange a rack in the middle of the oven and heat to 450°F.

Mix the dry ingredients: Whisk the flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt together in a medium bowl; set aside.

Grate the butter: Place a box grater over a small piece of parchment paper. Grate the frozen butter on the large holes of a box grater. When you get down to a small nub of butter, chop that nub into 5 to 6 small pieces.

Add the butter to the dry ingredients: Use the piece of parchment paper to transfer the butter to the dry ingredients. Use your fingers to sift the butter into the flour and break up any clumps of grated butter.

Mix in the buttermilk: Pour in the buttermilk and beat it in with a wooden spoon until the dough comes together and pulls away from the sides of the bowl.

INSTRUCTIONS

Fold the biscuits: Transfer the dough to a lightly floured cutting board. Pat the dough into a 1-inch-thick rough rectangle. Sprinkle the dough with a little more flour, if needed.

Fold the dough in half from top to bottom, then pat it back down into its original shape.

Repeat with the folding and patting, alternating folding from each side, the bottom, and the top until you have completed a total of 8 folds. At the end, the dough should be a little springy to the touch.

Cut the biscuits: Pat the dough into a 1-inch thickness. Use a 3-inch round cutter to cut the dough into 6 biscuits. If you don't get 6 the first time around, refold and pat down the excess dough and cut more as needed. Discard the scraps of leftover dough.

Bake: Arrange the biscuits in a 10-inch cast iron skillet so that the biscuits touch each other, but not the sides of the pan. Put the skillet in the oven and increase the oven temperature to 500°F. Bake until the biscuits are golden-brown, 15 to 18 minutes.

BUTTERMILK BISCUITS

INSTRUCTIONS

Serve: Remove the skillet from the oven and immediately remove the biscuits from the pan to a clean tea towel.

RECIPE NOTES

Storage: Leftover biscuits can be stored in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 3 days. Warm in a low oven or toast in a toaster oven.

It's raining...
Artist Binu Kottarakara

One Week One Shot

By:
SUNNY JOSEPH

Indian Pond Heron
(കുളക്കൊക്ക്) Ardeola grayii
grayii, preening

SUPPORTED BY:

DESIGN GROUNDS

SMALL PLOT ARCHITECTURE

We specialize in designing budget friendly bigger houses on smaller plots

3/4/5cent plots
2/3/4 BHK + 2 parking

We offer :

- Architectural consultancy
- Construction
- Renovation
- Interior Design
- Site supervision
- Landscape Design
- Working and construction drawings
- **3D** views for both exterior and interiors

To visit our Instagram page: **Scan**
designgrounds

Mob: **790 72 56 913**

Architects with M. Arch degree, registered under Council of architecture